

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-24 and 34-37 are pending in the above-referenced patent application. The Applicants respectfully request consideration of these claims on the merits, in view of the following remarks.

New Claims

New claims 34-37 were added in Amendment B on April 6, 2004, in order to claim certain preferred embodiments of the invention. No new matter was added.

Applicants have previously elected the species having:

- Silicon as the substrate;
- Au, or gold, as the wettable material;
- perfluorooctyltrichlorosilane as the non-wettable material;
- polyolefins as the polymeric materials;
- Reflectance Infrared Spectroscopy as the characterization technique; and
- vapor deposition of the wettable material.

Previously added claims 34-37 read upon these species.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that no further fees are required in connection with the instant amendment. If necessary, however, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-0496.

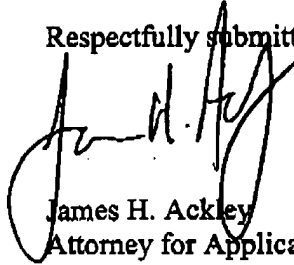
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